



## James "Jimmy" Erdman Melvin Jr.

January 1, 1954 - April 3, 2024

It is with a heavy heart that we announce the passing of James Erdman Melvin Jr. on April 3rd, 2024. He was surrounded by his wife and family at his home on Perry's Corner Rd. He was 70 years old.

James, or "Jimmy" as many knew him, was born January 1st, 1954 to Ethel Elizabeth Cook and James Erdman Melvin Sr. in Queenstown, Md. Jimmy's family roots run deep in Queen Anne's County as does the love and respect from everyone who knew him. Jimmy had many great memories growing up on Perry's Corner Rd. with his siblings Judy, Janet, and Wayne. He was brought up and taught the culture of eastern shore life at a young age. He, his father, and brother hunted for geese, duck, deer, and squirrel. They trapped muskrats and caught crabs and oysters. Jimmy began crabbing in Greenwood Creek as a young teenager with his father in their two skiffs powered by 1 hp engines. This creek would become the family heritage and place for many of life's lessons and teachings for the Melvin Family past and present.

Jimmy attended Queen Anne's County High School and met Ilene Cummings in 1972. They wed on March 16th, 1974 and started a family. At this time, Jimmy began tonging, and later diving, for oysters. Oystering was like a gold rush then and Jimmy was able to make a great living for his young family with his father James Sr., Uncle Kenneth Chance, and many friends. With his unparalleled work ethic, Jimmy spent weekends chopping firewood to keep

Ilene and their baby warm during the week while he was away.

Jimmy worked tirelessly to provide for his family and did everything he could to make their lives as comfortable as possible and give his wife and sons everything they needed. He began a trucking business with guidance from his brother-in-law, Bill Akers, hauling medical supplies to hospitals under the company Medi-Quick. Later, he sold his trucks to start a painting business with his lifelong friend, Danny Brown. He eventually took full ownership and ran the business successfully for over 25 years. Many local Queen Anne's County businesses, restaurants, and banking institutions were painted by Jimmy and his company.

Even when his health started declining, Jimmy continued to work and went back to his roots working on the water. His customers loved the select jumbos he caught for them. He received a liver transplant in 2007 and fought an uphill battle to regain his health and quality of life. He continued to face many health challenges throughout the years but overcame them, enthusiastically returning to his work on the water and spending quality time with his loved ones. These times of adversity never broke his spirit and love for everyone around him. He even continued working into 2022, dredging for oysters and selling to P. T. Hambelton with two of his sons. He was truly an example of resilience to everyone around him.

In his down time, Jimmy loved watching boxing, baseball, and his evening Fox News. He loved playing softball and was a pitcher for Charlie Thomas and Billy Willis' teams. He enjoyed the camaraderie and times with friends. Jimmy loved his cat "Bootsy" and tending to his beautiful yard and garden with Ilene. He could almost always be found occupied with a new project or task in the yard. Jimmy loved making his friends and family laugh and maintained his great sense of humor until he passed. He was so proud of all of his grandchildren. He took joy in using his many skills to help his family whenever

he could.

Jimmy and Ilene had many beautiful years together and celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on March 16th, 2024. They loved to travel together, laugh together, and were true companions. They especially enjoyed rides together on his Softail Deuce Harley Davidson. Their love endured through life's joys and challenges and they exemplified the dedication it takes to maintain a loving, long-lasting marriage.

Jimmy was preceded in death by his parents, his brother Wayne Melvin, his brother-in-law Bill Akers, and his nephew Jamie Melvin. Jimmy is survived by his loving wife Ilene Melvin. He is also survived by his son Jameson and wife Melody of Ridgely, son Jonias of Stevensville, and son Jordan and wife Molly of Queenstown. He is survived by his beloved grandchildren Ava Grace, Owen James, Ella Laine, Asa James, and Elijah Beau as well as many nieces and nephews.

Visitation be held on Wednesday, April 10, 2024, from 11:00am - 1:00pm, with a service at 1:00pm, at Fellows Helfenbein & Newnam Funeral Home, Centreville MD. Burial will follow at Chesterfield Cemetery, Centreville MD.

# Cemetery Details

## Chesterfield Cemetery

406 South Liberty Street  
Centreville, MD

# Previous Events

## Visitation

APR 10. 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM (ET)

Fellows, Helfenbein & Newnam Funeral Home, P.A.  
408 S. Liberty Street  
Centreville, MD 21617

## Funeral Service

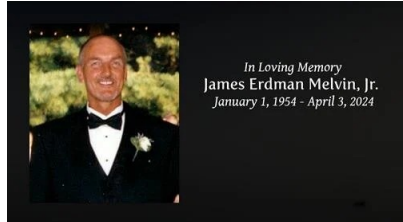
APR 10. 1:00 PM (ET)

Fellows, Helfenbein & Newnam Funeral Home, P.A.  
408 S. Liberty Street  
Centreville, MD 21617

# Tribute Wall



“ *Fellows, Helfenbein & Newnam Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of James "Jimmy" Erdman Melvin Jr.*



Fellows, Helfenbein & Newnam Funeral Home - April 08, 2024 at 02:47 PM

SC

“ *Shana Corder lit a candle in memory of James "Jimmy" Erdman Melvin Jr.*



Shana Corder - April 11, 2024 at 09:00 AM

FS

“ *Fupdike Senior planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of James "Jimmy" Erdman Melvin Jr..*

Fupdike Senior - April 09, 2024 at 05:10 PM

FS

“ *Fupdike Senior purchased the Simply Elegant Sp athiphyllum for the family of James "Jimmy" Erdman Melvin Jr..*



Fupdike Senior - April 09, 2024 at 05:10 PM

SB

“ *Sharlene & Paul Bullen lit a candle in memory of James "Jimmy" Erdman Melvin Jr.*



Sharlene & Paul Bullen - April 08, 2024 at 11:21 PM

SH

*Jimmy I have not seen you for years. But when we did see each other you always had a big smile and stopped to say hello. I will be seeing you again. This is not goodbye but I see you later.*

Sharlene - April 08, 2024 at 11:23 PM

JC

“ *With heavy heart I have to say goodbye to my best friend Jimmy Melvin. Good times and memories. R.I.P my good friend. When we meet again and I know we will we will have a glorious reunion*

james Coursey - April 08, 2024 at 06:26 PM

WJ

“ *With love, Kaleb & Ashley Jenkins purchased the Medium Dish Garden for the family of James "Jimmy" Erdman Melvin Jr..*



With love, Kaleb & Ashley Jenkins - April 08, 2024 at 11:51 AM

EC

“ Eastern Shore Dental Care lit a candle in memory of James "Jimmy" Erdman Melvin Jr.



Eastern Shore Dental Care - April 08, 2024 at 09:30 AM



“ Days of Sunshine Bouquet was purchased for the family of James "Jimmy" Erdman Melvin Jr..



April 07, 2024 at 04:36 PM

WR

“ Wayne & Brenda Cummings, Kay Radford planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of James "Jimmy" Erdman Melvin Jr..

Wayne & Brenda Cummings, Kay Radford - April 06, 2024 at 03:39 PM

WR

“ Wayne & Brenda Cummings, Kay Radford purchased the Fairest of All for the family of James "Jimmy" Erdman Melvin Jr..



Wayne & Brenda Cummings, Kay Radford - April 06, 2024 at 03:39 PM

BC

“ *Betsy and Michael Campion purchased the Sweet Tenderness for the family of James "Jimmy" Erdman Melvin Jr..*



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**Betsy and Michael Campion** - April 06, 2024 at 01:23 PM

KD

“ *Kenny Duncan lit a candle in memory of James "Jimmy" Erdman Melvin Jr.*



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**kenny duncan** - April 06, 2024 at 01:14 PM

RF

“ *Rose and Gary and Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of James "Jimmy" Erdman Melvin Jr..*

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**Rose and Gary and Family** - April 06, 2024 at 09:00 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of James "Jimmy" Erdman Melvin Jr..*



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April 06, 2024 at 09:00 AM

TS

“ Tracy Schulz lit a candle in memory of James "Jimmy" Erdman Melvin Jr.



Tracy Schulz - April 05, 2024 at 07:21 PM

VI

“ 🙏 to Jimmy's family and friends! I will always remember jimmy as a cool hippy 😊 sounds like a man who never gave in or gave up and obviously lived his life with his family and friends to the fullest. No doubt, he will be truly missed. Love and prayers as remember your cherished jimmy 🙏❤️. Val whaley ivins

Valerie whaley ivins - April 05, 2024 at 06:46 PM

KS

“ Dear Ilene and Family, so sorry to hear of Jimmy's passing. What a courageous fighter he was.  
Our prayers remain with you as God provides strength and peace in the days ahead! May your faith assure you that God will always be there to comfort you!  
Kendra Chance Sobot and Family

Kendra Sobot - April 05, 2024 at 04:25 PM

DB

“ Dear Ilene and family, I was so sorry to hear of your loss of Jimmy. My deepest condolences to you and your family



Deborah Schelts Bitter - April 05, 2024 at 12:27 PM

RB

“ *Deepest condolences to Ilene and the family. I am so very sorry. May God’s peace and comfort be with you during this difficult time.* ”



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**Ruth Baker** - April 05, 2024 at 08:34 AM

RD

“ *Raymond Dorrell lit a candle in memory of James "Jimmy" Erdman Melvin Jr.* ”



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**Raymond Dorrell** - April 05, 2024 at 08:26 AM

DP

“ *Doug Pierson lit a candle in memory of James "Jimmy" Erdman Melvin Jr.* ”



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**Doug Pierson** - April 05, 2024 at 07:52 AM

LH

“ *Lyn Higdon lit a candle in memory of James "Jimmy" Erdman Melvin Jr.* ”



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**Lyn Higdon** - April 05, 2024 at 06:53 AM

DP

“ Dave And Kathy Poet lit a candle in memory of James "Jimmy" Erdman Melvin Jr.



Dave and Kathy Poet - April 04, 2024 at 09:04 PM

WR

“ William "Bill" and Frances Revels purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of James "Jimmy" Erdman Melvin Jr..



William "Bill" and Frances Revels - April 04, 2024 at 08:50 PM

RM

“ So sorry to hear of Jimmy's passing . Thinking of Ilene and the family . They were for sure a special love story . You will be in our prayers . May all your fond memories keep you strong . May God bless you and give you strength ❤️



Rusty and Vickie Mowbray - April 04, 2024 at 07:23 PM

JB

“ Our deepest condolences to Ilene and the Melvin family.



Jackie Benton - April 04, 2024 at 07:10 PM

LT

“ *Larry An Faye Taylor lit a candle in memory of James "Jimmy" Erdman Melvin Jr.*



Larry an Faye Taylor - April 04, 2024 at 06:35 PM

LW

“ *Larry And Lynne Wilkins lit a candle in memory of James "Jimmy" Erdman Melvin Jr.*



Larry and Lynne Wilkins - April 04, 2024 at 06:24 PM

PD

“ *Patty Davidson lit a candle in memory of James "Jimmy" Erdman Melvin Jr.*



Patty Davidson - April 04, 2024 at 05:40 PM

BW

“ *Bob & Sheila Willis sent a virtual gift in memory of James "Jimmy" Erdman Melvin Jr.*



Bob & Sheila Willis - April 04, 2024 at 04:54 PM

JT

“ Jessica Turowski lit a candle in memory of James "Jimmy" Erdman Melvin Jr.



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**Jessica Turowski** - April 04, 2024 at 03:10 PM

GP

“ So very sorry to hear such sad news. My thoughts and prayers to his family and all his friends. Jimmy was a very kind person who always had a smile to share. R. I. P. Jimmy



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**Gail Poet-Dadds** - April 04, 2024 at 02:59 PM

DK

“ I'm so very sorry.....



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**Deborah Kiel** - April 04, 2024 at 02:04 PM

JU

“ Love you Uncle Jimmy 💜



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**JudyLynn** - April 04, 2024 at 12:56 PM

JU

“ *JudyLynn lit a candle in memory of James  
"Jimmy" Erdman Melvin Jr.*



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**JudyLynn** - April 04, 2024 at 12:53 PM

KL

*Our thoughts and prayers go to Ilene and the Melvin families. I had some great times growing up with Jimmy-Wayne-Judy and Janet.💔*

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**Karen Legg** - April 07, 2024 at 11:18 AM